

## CorkSport Mazda 3 Hood Struts

2014+ Mazda 3



**Thank you for purchasing the CorkSport Hood Struts for the Mazda 3.** The simple addition of these hood struts allow one handed operation of your hood while providing much better access to the engine bay by eliminating the stock hood prop. Please let us know your feedback by providing a review here:

<http://www.corksport.com/corksport-2014-mazda-3-hood-strut-kit.html>

### Pre-Installation Notes:



**Make sure your vehicle is completely cooled down** prior to starting installation. If you are going to work on your car within an hour or two of having driven it, use a fan to cool off the car.



**How our instructions work:** To best cover all of our customers experience levels, we have included an overview checklist for the more technically advanced users along with step-by-step instructions for customers that require additional detail.



These installation instructions were written using a 2014 Mazda 3.

### Materials and Time:



#### General Info.

**Part #:** Axm-8-700  
**Time Est:** 30 minutes  
**Wrench Rating:** 2/5



#### Tooling List

10mm Wrench  
12mm Wrench  
13mm Wrench  
17mm Wrench  
3/8" Socket Wrench  
10mm Socket  
12mm Socket  
Small Flat Head Screw Driver



#### Parts List

Two (2) Hood Struts  
Two (2) Hood Strut Brackets  
Two (2) Fender Strut Brackets  
Two (2) Stainless Flat Fender Nuts  
Four (4) 10mm Ball Studs  
Four(4) 13mm Locking Nuts  
Two (2) 10mm Bolts  
Two (2) 10mm Nuts  
Two (2) 17mm Bolts

Need Help With Your Installation?  
Call (360) 260-CORK

## Checklist


This is an overview of each step in the build. You can use this as a reference and a checklist as you button up the work on your car

These installation instructions were written using a 2014 Mazda 3.


### 1. Prepare to Install the Hood Struts

- a) **Open the hood** and prop it up with the factory hood prop.
- b) **Remove the rubber trim panel** by prying out the three (3) push clips (as shown in [Figure 1a](#)).
- c) **Locate the raised section of the upper frame with a hole** (red circle in [Figure 1b](#)).

### 2. Install the CS Hood Strut Brackets

- a) **Place the stainless flat nut into the upper frame section and line up the holes** (as shown in [Figure 2a](#)).
- b) **Place the "Z" bracket into the fender.**
- c) **Loosely fasten the bracket to the fender.** Line the hole in the fender to the elongated hole in the bracket, and hand thread the small nut and bolt (M6) together as shown in [Figure 2b](#).
  -  Take great care not to drop the nut down into the fender well
- d) **Thread the large bolt down through the bracket and frame and into the flat stainless nut.** Tighten the large bolt with a 17mm wrench as shown in [Figure 2b](#).
- e) **Tighten the small nut and bolt with a 10mm wrench and socket** ([Figure 2b](#)).
- f) **Place the ball stud into the bracket and thread the nut on.** Tighten with 12mm and 13mm wrenches ([Figure 2c](#)).
- g) **Use a 12mm socket wrench to remove the two (2) bolts** fastening the hood to the hinge bracket ([Figure 2d](#)).
- h) **Place the CorkSport hood strut bracket** (as shown in [Figure 2e](#)) and replace the two (2) bolts.
- i) **Place the ball stud into the hole in the bracket.** The ball end points toward the engine. Tighten it using one of the supplied 13mm nuts ([Figure 2e](#)).
- j) **Repeat Steps 2a-2g for other side of car.**

### 3. Install the CS Hood Struts

- a) **Lift the hood off of the factory hood prop, and line strut up with the ball studs.** Push the CS Hood Strut onto the ball studs attached to the brackets. Not much force is needed here when done correctly. The smaller end of the strut attaches to the hood, and the larger end of the strut attaches to the CS Bracket (**Figure 3a**).
- b) **Repeat the strut install process on the driver's side of the car.**
- c) **Replace the rubber trim panels removed in step 1b.**
  -  The push clips closest to the windshield will not be re-installed.
- d) **Enjoy!**



**This completes the installation of your CorkSport Hood Struts. Open and close the hood to make sure that nothing binds. Once the hood is 50% open it will become light. Be very careful not to let the hood open too quickly.**

## Detailed Instructions

 These installation instructions were written using a 2014 Mazda 3.

### 1. Prepare to Install the Hood Struts

- a) **Open the hood** and prop it up with the factory hood prop.
- b) **Remove the rubber trim panel** by prying out the three (3) push clips (as shown in **Figure 1a**).
- c) **Locate the raised section of the upper frame with a hole** (red circle in **Figure 1b**).

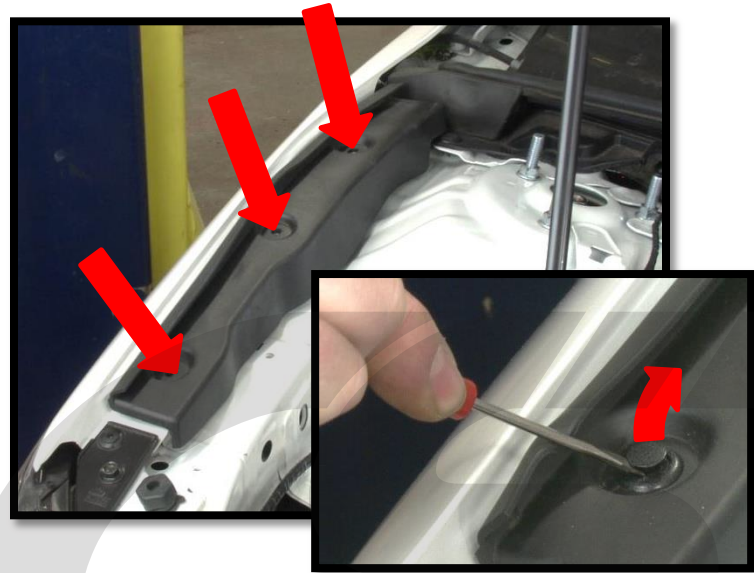


Figure 1a



Figure 1b

### 2. Install the CS Hood Strut Brackets

- a) **Place the stainless flat nut into the upper frame section and line up the holes** (as shown in **Figure 2a**).



Stainless Flat Nut



Figure 2a

## 2. Install the CS Hood Strut Brackets (continued)

b) Place the "Z" bracket into the fender.



Passenger Side "Z" Bracket

c) Loosely fasten the bracket to the fender. Line the hole in the fender to the elongated hole in the bracket, and hand thread the small nut and bolt (M6) together as shown in Figure 2b.



Take great care not to drop the nut down into the fender well.

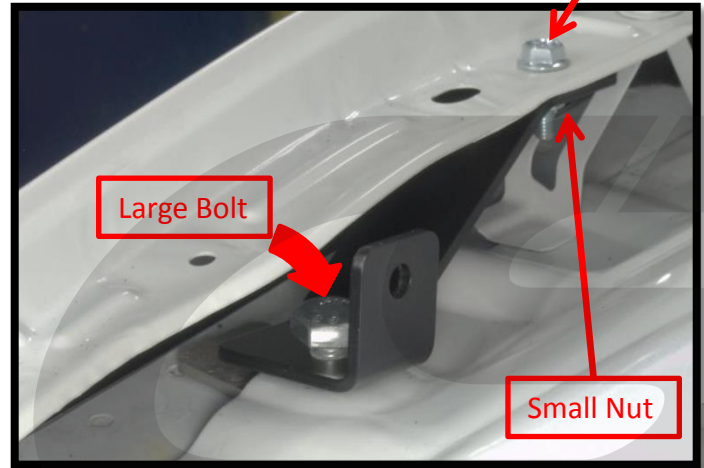


Figure 2b

d) Thread the large bolt down through the bracket and frame and into the flat stainless nut. Tighten the large bolt with a 17mm wrench to 15ft.lbs (Figure 2b).

e) Tighten the small nut and bolt with a 10mm wrench and socket (Figure 2b).

f) Place the ball stud into the bracket and thread the nut on. Tighten with 12mm and 13mm wrenches (Figure 2c).



Take great care not to drop the nut down into the fender well.



Figure 2c



## 2. Install the CS Hood Strut Brackets (continued)

- g) Use a 12mm socket wrench to remove the two (2) bolts fastening the hood to the hinge bracket (Figure 2d).



Be careful and don't drop the hood. Help from an assistant is recommended for this step.

- h) Place the CorkSport hood strut bracket (as shown in Figure 2e) and replace the two (2) bolts.

- i) Place the ball stud into the hole in the bracket. The ball end points toward the engine. Tighten it using one of the supplied nuts and 12mm and 13mm wrenches (Figure 2e).

- j) Repeat Steps 2a-2h for other side of car.



Figure 2d



Figure 2e

## 3. Install the CS Hood Struts

- a) Lift the hood off of the factory hood prop, and line strut up with the ball studs. Push the CS Hood Strut onto the ball studs attached to the brackets. Not much force is needed here when done correctly. The smaller end of the strut attaches to the hood bracket (red arrow in Figure 3a), and the larger end of the strut attaches to the CS fender bracket (green arrow in Figure 3a).

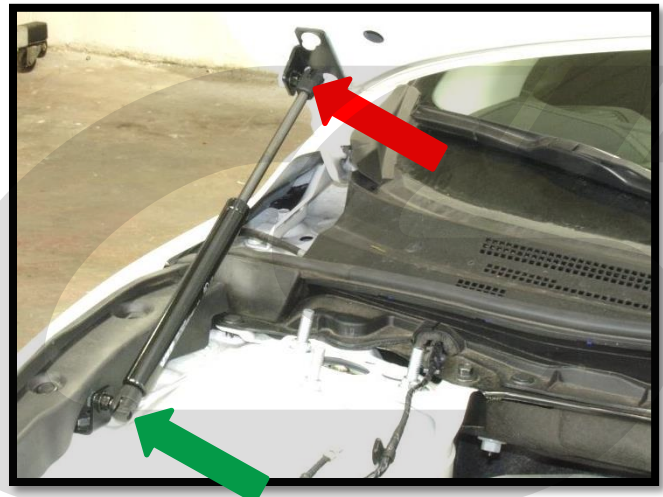


figure 3a

### 3. Install the CS Hood Struts (continued)

b) Repeat the strut install process on the driver's side of the car.

c) Replace the rubber trim panels and push clips removed in step 1b. The push clips closest to the windshield will not be re-installed.



The first time you close the hood you will have to pull down firmly on the hood to get it too move.



This completes the installation of your CorkSport Hood Struts. Open and close the hood to make sure that nothing binds. Once the hood is 50% open it will become light. Be very careful not to let the hood open too quickly.

#### What's Next:

### [CORKSPORT 2014+ Mazda 3 SkyActiv Power Series Short Ram Intake 2.0 & 2.5](#)



**One of the easiest and most beneficial performance enhancements you can do for your vehicle**, the CorkSport Power Series Short Ram Intake replaces your factory airbox with an open intake system allowing more air into the intake chamber. Engineered with exacting tolerances, the CorkSport SkyActiv Short Ram Intake includes our precision machined MAF housing made from billet aluminum, a durable dry flow air filter and custom reinforced silicone connector.